



#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- EUG 5K
- High Voltage Switch Repair
- Sunday Streets
- Crack Sealing Program
- Diversity Committee Members Honored

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# Public Works Monthly Report

July 2014

## Parks and Open Space

### Polk Street Neighbors Team Up

Neighboring residents donated gravel and filled potholes to begin the improvement of the gravel road at the north end of North Polk Street which also provides access to the Whiteaker Community Garden and a section of Maurie Jacobs Park. Team members from West and South Region teams set out no-parking signs a few days prior to the scheduled grading so the work could be done safely and efficiently, and neighbors helped monitor that section of North Polk Street to ensure a clear work area for them. Working with a backhoe, team members graded the road with about eight cubic yards of gravel from Coburg Quarry, filling in low spots. Following this action, a coating of soy-based oil was applied by SureCrop to control dust. Park Operations team members and neighbors have worked together each year on this gravel road since the early 1990s when an agreement between the City and the abutting neighbors was made.



### Leaders in Wetland Prairie Restoration

Natural Resources staff, with the Institute for Applied Ecology and Jeff Krueger Environments, hosted two all-day workshops on wetland prairie restoration, the third phase of a project begun in 2004. Wet prairies require ongoing management and long-term goals include preventing the establishment of undesirable woody vegetation, removal of accumulated thatch, enhancement of native diversity, and control of non-native invasive species. After restoring the hydrology and removing the non-native plant community, five to seven years will be spent stewarding a new native plant community into maturity, depending on the condition of the site prior to restoration.

**Trevor Taylor** and **Diane Steek** presented information about several aspects of wet prairie restoration including planning, site preparation, establishment, long term management, and field trips to Coyote Prairie to over 90 professional wetland scientists, including those from Washington state and Vancouver, Canada. **Paul Gordon** assisted in equipment demonstrations, including seed drill and other seeding tools, several seed cleaning apparatuses, and pieces of equipment related to herbicide application. This third phase emphasizing outreach, included production of a guide to restoring wet prairies, and a website of additional resources. The first EPA grant focused on researching wetland prairie restoration techniques, the second phase on researching management approaches, and the recent all-day workshops represent the culmination of ten years of research and experimentation funded by the U.S. EPA to learn the best techniques for restoring and managing wetland prairies.



# Airport



## Good bye Manny Peral, Welcome Bruce Gouveia

**Manny Peral** has accepted a position at Stormwater Maintenance. “I want to thank Manny for all of his hard work while he was here at the airport,” said **Steve Nicholas**, Airport Facilities Manager. “Manny brought a lot of energy to the job and was always willing to step up and work extra shifts to cover other staff’s time off.”

Manny will be working graveyard driving a street sweeper along with other duties.

Starting on August 12 **Bruce Gouveia** began taking Manny Peral’s AW-I position on graveyard. Bruce has been with the City of Eugene since 1998 and comes to us from Stormwater Maintenance.

## Eugene Airport and 5K on the Runway Event



What do airplanes and athletes have in common? They both use runways! The Eugene Airport partnered with the Active 20-30 Club of Eugene for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Air Fair and 5K on the Runway event. More than 150 runners turned out for the race and spectators enjoyed live music, pancakes, children’s activities and vendor booths. The Experimental Aircraft Association provided free flights for children interested in aviation. This year’s event featured airplanes on display and fun for the whole family.



## Welcome Kimberly McCormick

Kimberly McCormick joined the airport staff as a limited duration senior administrative specialist. Her last position was with Facilities Maintenance at the Bio-solids Management Facility. Before that she was an administrative specialist at Wastewater. Kimberly grew up all over the country as a military brat and has lived in the Eugene area for the past 21 years. She enjoys camping, hiking, and all outdoor activities. She has two male cats that she calls her “Fur Babies.”

Kimberly replaces **Cari Soong** who Cari Soong has accepted a position with the Lane County Sheriff’s Office as the Property and Evidence Technician. Cari has been at the airport since January as a limited duration senior administrative specialist. She fit right in and did a great job for us and we know she’ll find success in her new position at LCSO.

# Wastewater

## Maintenance Performed on High Voltage Switch Gear

Two major power shutdowns were coordinated and carried out to allow for electrical maintenance of the high voltage switchgear for the Willakenzie Pump Station and Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF). The power shutdowns were coordinated with EWEB and the electrical maintenance included inspection, cleaning, and repair. The work was performed by a contractor and the plant's electrical crew.



The first shutdown on Tuesday, July 29, consisted of a complete electric power outage of the Willakenzie Pump Station. The Willakenzie Station is the largest of the regional and local pump stations, and it conveys all of the flow from Springfield and the portion of Eugene service flow from the east side of the Willamette River to the WPCF. All of the maintenance was successfully completed over the shutdown period which lasted five hours. Crews carefully monitored the backup and storage of wastewater in the large diameter sewer interceptor throughout the work to ensure that no overflows occurred.



The second shutdown on Wednesday, July 30, was more complicated and included a complete electrical power shutdown of the WPCF. Portable electric generators were used to power up a limited portion of treatment processes, and the Operations and Maintenance Buildings. The power shutdown required closure of the septage receiving station and adjustments in sampling and laboratory analyses schedules. Nearly all

of the wastewater flow from the regional service was held back and stored in the collection system and off line treatment processes for seven hours while the necessary electrical maintenance was performed. As with the Willakenzie Pump Station shutdown, all of the planned maintenance was successfully completed and there were no wastewater overflows or service interruptions for the collection system, RV Wastewater Station, or the Boat Wastewater Pumpout Station. The Plant Operators restarted equipment and worked through a number of operational challenges to bring the Plant back on line after the power was restored. All NPDES permit limitations and all related regulatory requirements were achieved during the shutdown and after the plant was restarted.

## New Lead Worker for Plant Operations

**Matt Hays** was promoted to Wastewater Technician 3, Lead Worker, for the operation of the regional Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF). Matt has 23 years of water/wastewater operation experience with the past 15 years as a Plant Operator at the WPCF.





# Engineering

## 2014 Eugene Sunday Streets Off to Gre(y)t Start

The 2014 Eugene Sunday Streets series kicked off on Sunday, July 20. Despite grey skies and morning drizzle an estimated 1,750 people came out to walk, bike, or roll on car-free streets.

The route traveled along 5th Ave and looped around at Adams St. back to Jefferson St. and then up to WJ Skatepark and Urban Plaza. Fun family-friendly activities were placed along the route and two activity centers featured live music from local groups. A helmet give-away provided free helmets for all ages. Participants also got to experience a demo cycletrack between Olive St. and Charnelton St..



Check out the photos on the [facebook page](#). There are still a pair of glasses and a handbag in the Lost & Found. Contact Sunday Streets Coordinator, **Jordan Bailey** to recover the found items: [jordan.s.bailey@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:jordan.s.bailey@ci.eugene.or.us) or 541-501-0390.

The next event will be in the Harlow neighborhood on Sunday, September 21. Sunday Streets is still looking for volunteers and vendors so please contact [sundaystreets@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:sundaystreets@ci.eugene.or.us) or 541-501-0390 to get involved.

Eugene Sunday Streets is sponsored by the City of Eugene, Oregon Department of Transportation, point2point Solutions, Eugene Weekly, Selco and Bike Friday.

## Staff News

**Caitlin Todd** recently started working with the PWE Mapping and Data Team as a temporary GIS Technician through Quantum. She hit the ground running; refining GIS metadata, quality assuring new residential building footprints and researching old survey location books.



Caitlin lives just outside the city limits in a cozy, country home. She was born and raised in Eugene, attended Winston Churchill High School and learned much about art, aesthetics, and the French language. She is in her second year at Lane Community College, working toward an Associates of Applied Science degree, specializing in Geospatial Information Technology and Science. She is also earning a Certificate in Drafting. She wanted to become a Forester, but could not get the necessary course-work at Lane Community College, so she chose to major in GIS instead. After the first class she was hooked and is eager to start a life-long career in GIS with a long term goal of working for the Oregon BLM.

In her free time, she can be found outdoors painting or drawing. When it's too cold to go outside, she likes to read classic novels and zoological and art textbooks. She spends most of her free time with friends and her dog Dana.

Caitlin sits in the workspace just outside **Patrick Cox's** office on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Wells Fargo building. Next time you're in the area, drop by and introduce yourself.

On July 14, **Kyle Glidden** returned to the Darwin team as a temporary employee through Quantum to assist the team through the busy construction season. Kyle previously worked for the Darwin team in 2012 as a Civil Engineering Cooperative Program (CECOP) intern while attending Oregon State University. Kyle's tenure is expected to last about two months.

Job #	Bid Name	Bid Due Date	Engineer's Estimate	Apparent Low Bidder	Actual
4921	Wild Iris Ridge Maintenance Road	7/8/2014	\$15,000 - \$20,000	Eugene Sand Construction	\$19,133.80
4795	2014 PBM 1st Ave; Madison St; Monroe St	7/8/2014	\$1,500,000 - \$2,000,000	Knife River	\$1,771,177.10
4851 4950	2014 Drywell Elimination Program Andersen Area; 2014 PBM Acorn Park Street Pedestrian	7/15/2014	\$650,000 - \$800,000	Eugene Sand Construction	\$872,977.50

## Maintenance

### Surface Maintenance Crack Sealing Program

In coordination with the Pavement Management Program, crack sealing is currently being performed throughout the community's streets. Recently work was performed on the runways of the Eugene Airport. Surface Maintenance crews along with seasonal support staff were assigned to this project. Seasonal staff supported crews with traffic control, crack preparation, and the application of hot crack seal material which is applied at 375 degrees. An average annual application rate is approximately 65,000 pounds. This season, to date, the program has sealed 47 miles using 49,000 pounds of crack sealing materials.

Cracks in asphalt surfaces allows water to penetrate the surface, softening the stone or in some cases clay base, leading to alligator cracking, potholes, and other forms of degradation. Left unfilled, cracks will allow rain and moisture to flow through pavement resulting in premature failure. Cracks left over the winter can grow quickly due to the freeze/thaw cycle and will consequently result in far more costly repairs.

To get the best results from a crack sealing program, it is important to properly prepare the crack prior to sealing. Common methods of cleaning the cracks consist of removing vegetation utilizing an edger with a wire wheel, and clearing the remaining debris using high pressure air from a truck mounted compressor. A clean, dry surface is imperative to achieve proper adherence of the crack filling material.

Crack sealing/filling is a necessary part of a successful Pavement Management Program by addressing the wear on city streets at the beginning stages, halting further deterioration and yielding possible long-term financial savings.

# Administration

## Public Works Diversity Committee Members Honored

**Julie Schafer (PWM/POS), Carrie Martin (formally APT), John Huberd (WW), Litahni Harlow (PWE), Chad Mickelson (PWM), and Emily Aune (POS)**, pictured left to right, were recognized at the July 2014 PWDC meeting. The committee members completed their two-year term and received a customized plaque, created by **Kim Mast (PWA)**, in appreciation for their participation and lasting contributions to diversity, equity and human rights.



The meeting was held at Hendricks Park to honor members rotating off the committee and to welcome new committee members, **Casey Boatman (APT), Andrea Brown (PWE), Ryan Grant (PWM), Gary Riberal (PWM), Ken Green (POS), and Brian Kunasek (WW)**. Public Works Director, **Kurt Corey**, discussed the importance of diversity and shared his vision for the department and Robert Brack (Recreation Services) led the group through team-building activities. The meeting highlighted the committee's accomplishments of the past year.

**Julie Schafer (PWM/POS)**, committee chair, and **Emily Aune (POS)**, committee note-taker, also received the Perfect Attendance award.



The fiscal year 2015 Public Works Diversity Committee members are: **Neil Bjorklund (POS), Casey Boatman (APT), Andrea Brown (PWE), Ryan Grant (PWM), Ken Green (POS), Eric Johnson (PWM), Brian Kunasek (WW), Gary Riberal (PWM), Mark Smith (PWE), Trail Smith (WW), Robert Tintle (PWA), and Tracy Walsh (PWA)**.

**Melissa Robinson** officially joined Public Works Administration on July 14 as the Sr. Administrative Specialist. We had the benefit of a seamless transition as she had been serving in this role as a temporary employee for the previous six months. Melissa brings extensive experience and expertise in customer service and project support. Her background includes experience as a Community Assistant at the University of Oregon resolving resident and property issues, and volunteer experience as an event planner, volunteer coordinator, first responder and conducting financial and legal oversight in various organizations in the nonprofit sector. Melissa holds a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from the University of Wyoming and is working towards her Master of Public Administration at the University of Oregon. For fun, Melissa and her two daughters enjoy camping, hiking, watching movies in the park, and making up silly songs about all their adventures.

